(b) what amount has been provided for his reception?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) A National Reception Committee of about 175 prominent Indians, drawn from all regions, political parties and walks of life, has been formed. A working Group of the Committee too was constituted for directing its activities.

(b) Adequate funds will be provided for his reception as and when necessary.

Discretionary Powers of Governors

1944. SHRI T.R. BALU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to curtail the discretionary powers of Governors in forming the Ministries in the States; and

(b) if so, by when the decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Amendment of Constitution in pursuance of Sarkaria Commission Recommendations

1945. SHRI T.R. BALU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to amend the Constitution as recommended by the Sarkaria Commission; and

(b) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b) As at present, there is no proposal before the Government to amend the Constitution on the recomendations of the Commission.

New Treaty with Sri Lanka

1946. SHRI T. R. BALU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to sign a new treaty with Sri Lanka; and

(b) if so, the nature of the treaty?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) (a) and (b) The Sri Lanka Government has proposed a Friendship Treaty, modelled on the Indo-Soviet Treaty, to replace the Letters Exchanged on 29th July, 1987 at the time of the signing of the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement. Government has conveyed its willingness in principle to sign such Treaty to accommodate Sri Lanka's request if a mutually agreed text can be negotiated.

Widening of National Highway between Vijayawada and Chilakaluripeta

1947. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to widen the National Highway between Vijayawada and Chilakaluripeta in Andhra Pradesh; if so, what is the cost involved therein and by when the project is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): Yes, Sir. Estimate for survey, investigation and project preparation of 4-laning Chilakaluripeta-Guntur-Vijayawada Section having a length of 82.95 Kms.

at a cost of Rs. 36.21 lakhs was sanctioned in December, 1987 and the same is in advanced stage. As per the feasibility report, the project is estimated to cost about Rs. 122 crores.

It is too early to indicate when the work will be completed.

Harassment of Officials in Foreign Division of IB

1948. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govrnment are aware that the officials in the Foreign Division of IB under his Ministry are being harassed and forced to work in in-human conditions by the Assistant Directors since long; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to check this harassment of the officials?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Government have no such information.

(b) Does not arise.

Introduction of secured Passport Booklet with comprehensive security features

1949. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a more secured passport booklet with comprehensive security features in the country;

(b) if so, when such passport booklet would be introduced;

(c) whether all the passport offices in the country will issue such passports; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the new passport booklet?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As soon as possible during this year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details are being finalised.

Poor D.T.C. Services in the Capital

1950. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPART be pleased to state :

(a) whether the D.T.C. bus service in the capital has badly deteriorated since the last three-four months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to take any concrete steps to remove DTC bus services in the capital;

(d) whether it is also a fact that D.T.C. is incurring heavy losses every year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government propose to take to make D.T.C. a profitable corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The details given below show that during December, 1988 to February, 1989 the facilities offered by D.T.C. has shown improvement over the level of services in the corresponding period of 1988-89.